

## A NEW SPECIES OF *PRISTACIURA* HENDEL (DIPTERA: TEPHRITIDAE: TEPHRITINAE) FROM SOUTHERN CHINA

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### Abstract

*Pristaciura brunnea* sp. n. is described from Hong Kong and also recorded from Yunnan Province, China. A key to the five known species of *Pristaciura* Hendel (in tribe Tephrellini) and some additional records from Sri Lanka and northern India are included.

### Introduction

The genus *Pristaciura* Hendel contains small black flies belonging to the *Sphaeniscus* group of genera in tribe Tephrellini. This group of tephritid flies breeds in the flowerheads of Lamiaceae. The species of *Pristaciura* were reviewed recently by Hancock (2010), with an undescribed species identified. Although all known species are Asian in distribution (known only as far east as Java), *Pristaciura* appears to be closely related to the Sulawesi-New Guinea genus *Curticella* Hardy, which differs in having two pairs of orbital setae instead of one, a slightly longer third antennal segment and wing cell *bcu* acute but without a distinct apical extension (Hardy 1987, Hancock 2010). The new species is described below.

### *Pristaciura brunnea* sp. n.

(Figs 1-6)

*Oxyaciura monochaeta*: Wang, 1998: 244; pl. 27, fig. 263 (China: Xishuangbanna, Yunnan). Misidentification.

*Pristaciura* undescribed species: Hancock, 2010: 4-5 (China: Yunnan and Hong Kong).

*Types*. Holotype ♂, CHINA (HONG KONG): N[ew] T[erritories], Sai Kung Station, 26.i.1965, W.J. Voss & Hui Wai Ming collectors, Bishop Mus. Paratypes: 1 ♀, Hong Kong, Saikung, Kowloon, 22.iv.1965, C.M. Yoshimoto collector, Bishop Museum; 1 ♂, same data as holotype but 19.xii.1964; 1 ♂, same data as holotype but 4.i.1965. Holotype and paratypes in Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii.

*Description*. Male (Fig. 1). Length of body 3 mm, of wing 3.2 mm; mostly black in colour. Head (Fig. 3) higher than long, with band of dense pale dust below eye; frons almost as wide as eye, orange-brown and with coarse, yellowish setulae, darker brown posteriorly across ocelli and laterally with dense pale dust along eye margins; face brown with dense pale dust; occiput shining black; 3 pairs of black frontal and 1 pair of black orbital setae; ocellar setae short; medial vertical seta black; lateral vertical seta vestigial; postocellar, paravertical and uppermost postocular setae (6 setae in total) thickened and yellow-white; other postocular setae thin and black; genal seta black; antennae a little shorter than face, with first and second segments yellow-brown, the third segment darker brown, rounded apically and about 3.5 times as long as broad; arista with microscopic pubescence, almost bare.

Thorax largely shining black; scutum with very fine pale dust and black pubescence; with the following black setae: postpronotal, presutural, anterior and posterior notopleural, postsutural supra-alar, post-alar, intra-alar, anepisternal, anepimeral, katepisternal, dorsocentrals on line of postsutural supra-alars, prescutellar acrostichals; 1 pair of basal scutellar setae, situated lateromedially and conspicuously long, the apicals absent.

Wing (Fig. 5) relatively narrow and extensively blackish-brown; with a large, oval, yellowish spot in cell  $r_{4+5}$  just beyond line of DM-Cu crossvein (hyaline in paratypes); a large, oval, hyaline spot in anterior apical quarter of cell  $dm$  centred slightly basad of line of R-M crossvein; other hyaline indentations as follows: a narrow, subquadrate spot just basad of middle of cell  $c$  (vestigial or absent in paratypes); two broadly triangular indentations from costa in cell  $r_1$ , the inner one just enclosing the apex of stigma (cell  $sc$  adjacent to costa) and extending across cell  $r_{2+3}$  to vein  $R_{2+3}$ , the outer one just crossing vein  $R_1$ ; three transverse posterior indentations from wing margin, the inner one across middle of cell  $cu_1$  directed towards stigma, the middle one near apex of cell  $cu_1$  also directed towards stigma, the outer one near base of cell  $m$  broadest at wing margin and curving anteriorly alongside DM-Cu crossvein towards spot in cell  $r_{4+5}$ ; anal lobe dark brown; alula pale brownish-hyaline; stigma short, about one-third length of cell  $c$ ; R-M crossvein placed well beyond middle of cell  $dm$ , behind outer hyaline indentation in cell  $r_1$ ; vein  $R_{4+5}$  bare; costa with a short but distinct spine at apex of cell  $c$ ; cell  $bcu$  with apical extension short and acute. Haltere red-brown.

Legs yellowish brown, with femora, base of mid tibiae and basal half of hind tibiae blackish-brown; mid tibiae with a short, black apical spine.

Abdomen shining black with fine pale dust and sparse black pubescence; broadly rounded and narrowing slightly at apex. Genitalia not examined.

Female (Fig. 2). Similar to male except face paler, haltere yellow-brown and wing (Fig. 6) broader, with the oval spot in cell  $r_{4+5}$  hyaline (as in paratype males) and anal lobe and alula hyaline. Abdominal tergum VI shorter than tergum V. Oviscape (Fig. 4) black,  $\approx 1$  mm long, about 4 times as long as basal width and at least as long as abdomen, subtubular but flattened ventrally; aculeus not exposed.

*Etymology.* Named after the colour of the male anal lobe.

*Distribution.* Known only from Hong Kong and Yunnan Province in southern China.

*Comments.* This species differs from others in the genus in the combination of characters noted in the following key. Previously confused with *P. monochaeta* (Bezzi) (Wang 1998), it appears to be most closely related to *P. xanthothricha* (Bezzi) but has differently shaped posterior hyaline indentations on the wing and a longer, narrower oviscape (*c.f.* Bezzi 1913).



Figs 1-2. *Pristaciura brunnea* sp. n.: habitus: (1) holotype male; (2) paratype female.  
Wing lengths = 3.2 mm.



Figs 3-6. *Pristaciura brunnea* sp. n.: (3) head of holotype male; (4) oviscapte of paratype female; (5) wing of holotype male; (6) wing of paratype female.

### Key to species of *Pristaciura* Hendel

- 1 Wing with four posterior hyaline indentations, including one at middle of cell m [head with the six postocellar, paravertical and uppermost postocular setae thickened and yellow-white; hyaline indentation at middle of cell  $cu_1$  transverse and directed towards that at base of cell  $r_1$  and that at base of cell m not broadly expanded posteriorly; anal lobe pale brown with base and apex hyaline; oviscape shorter than abdomen; Taiwan and Japan (Iriomote, Ishigaki and Okinawa Islands)] ..... *P. formosae* (Hendel, 1927)
- Wing with three posterior hyaline indentations, lacking one at middle of cell m ..... 2
- 2 All head setae, including the six postocellar, paravertical and uppermost postocular setae thin and black [hyaline indentation at middle of cell  $cu_1$  oblique, directed towards apex of cell c and that at base of cell m broadly expanded posteriorly; oviscape as long as abdomen; northern India and Nepal] ..... *P. monochaeta* (Bezzi, 1913)
- Head with at least the six postocellar, paravertical and uppermost postocular setae thickened and yellow-white ..... 3
- 3 Head with entire row of postocular setae yellow-white; hyaline indentation in cell c broad and quadrate [hyaline indentation at middle of cell  $cu_1$  oblique, directed towards apex of cell c and that at base of cell m broadly expanded posteriorly; oviscape shorter than abdomen; Sri Lanka, southern India, southern Thailand, Vietnam, SE China (Hainan) and Indonesia (Java)] ..... *P. incisa* Hendel, 1928
- Head with all postocular setae except the uppermost thin and black; hyaline indentation in cell c narrow or absent ..... 4
- 4 Hyaline indentation at middle of cell  $cu_1$  oblique, directed towards apex of cell c and that at base of cell m narrow, not broadly expanded posteriorly; oviscape shorter than abdomen [male unknown; northern India and southern Burma; records from elsewhere are of *P. incisa*] ..... *P. xanthotricha* (Bezzi, 1913)
- Hyaline indentation at middle of cell  $cu_1$  transverse, directed towards stigma and that at base of cell m broadly expanded posteriorly; oviscape at least as long as abdomen [anal lobe dark brown in male, hyaline in female; southern China (Yunnan, Hong Kong)] ..... *P. brunnea* sp. n.

### Additional records of *Pristaciura* species

*Pristaciura incisa* – SRI LANKA: 1 ♀, Niruddumunai, Trincomalee district, 9.ii.1914, R. Senior-White. (In Natural History Museum, London). This is the female noted by Hardy (1971) under '*Indaciura xanthotricha*'.

*Pristaciura monochaeta* – INDIA: 1 ♀, Uchani, Karnal, Haryana; 1 ♀, Cuttack, Orissa. (Both in Natural History Museum, London).

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